



Literally Speaking



Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy 1000 Avocado Ave, Newport Beach, CA 92660 (949) 717-3874

February/March 2012



A publication of Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy, a program of the Newport Beach Public Library

2011-2013 State Budget Cuts

As most of you know, the 2011-2012 State budget was dependent on revenues received by December 15, 2011. This plan was called the "trigger bill." As the projected income was not met, the State reduced or eliminated funding to many programs including Library Services and Literacy.

Governor Brown released his 2012-13 budget early in January with no funding for California public libraries and literacy programs, and a reduction to the State Library budget. California Library Association (CLA) lobbyists will be working with legislators at the Capitol, encouraging them to build library funding back into the new State Budget.

Please let your legislators know how much library and literacy services mean to you by writing them letters or emails.

**Thank you to *Pacific Life Foundation*
for its ongoing support of
Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy.**

Save the Date

On May 4, 2012, Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy will hold its annual **Gift of Literacy** fundraising luncheon featuring guest author, Alan Brennert.

His book, *Moloka'i* (the current Literacy Book Club pick), is the 2012 selection for One Book, One San Diego.

The literacy program is very excited to have this accomplished writer as guest speaker and we hope you will join us at what promises to be a fascinating event. You will also have the opportunity to sit at the Author's Table.

There will be a silent auction, and several gift baskets will be raffled off.

The luncheon is Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy's main fundraising event of the year, so we are counting on all of you to spread the word (and purchase your ticket!)

For more information, contact Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy.



Check Out What's New on NewsforYouOnline.com

We've added some new features and resources for you on NewsforYouOnline.com!

- NewsforYouOnline.com has added a page for teachers that offers a new activity each week. Look for the link at the bottom of the right navigation bar.
- All photo and infographic captions now have audio. Just click on the little audio icon in the left corner of each photo.
- Links to the Teacher's Guides and the crossword puzzles for past issues are available on the archive page.
- You can navigate the site in both English and Spanish. Look for the link at the top right hand corner of the site.
- And, if you haven't already heard about it, you can download a free app for iPhones and iPads from the iTunes store. The app lets you access all of the great features of NewsforYouOnline.com on these devices.



New Civics and Citizenship Toolkit Available

The **Civics and Citizenship Toolkit** is a collection of educational resources developed by USCIS to help permanent residents learn more about the United States and prepare for the naturalization process.

Many of the Toolkit's products are terrific supplemental teaching tools for tutors to help their learners become citizens. For more information please go to the USCIS website: www.citizenshiptoolkit.gov.

Please let us know if you are planning to become a new citizen soon.

"You can't save the whole world but you can try by saving one person at a time."

~ Sister of a Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy prospective tutor ~

Get-A-Job Toolbox

Have you been struggling to find a job? Do you need help to polish up your skills? Then this workshop is for you.



We're very pleased with the results of the first session of our workshop, and we are now taking reservations for our second session, "Skills Assessment and Resume Writing", which runs February 13 and 27.

Each workshop is designed to cover a different area of the job search: finding the right job, skills assessments, resumes, networking and preparing for interviews.

Class size is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis, so be sure to contact the literacy office to sign up soon.

Did You Know?

Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy now has its own channel on YouTube. Go to **NewportMesaLiteracy** to view our new PSA!



27th Annual SCLLN Literacy Conference

Don't miss the best one-day literacy conference in Southern California. Many informative workshops for learning from great presenters and your colleagues. Time for networking and great food.

Plus, the luncheon will feature what guarantees to be an emotional *Writer 2 Writer* ceremony.

Saturday, February 25, 2012

8:15am - 3:00pm

(Check-in and breakfast begin at 7:00am)

Buena Park Holiday Inn
7000 Beach Boulevard
Buena Park, CA 92601



To register online go to

www.conference.com/eventmanager/online/registration.asp?eventcode=PBS

Snapshot:

Beverly Canton & Johanna Van't Hof Volunteers



If you've ever stopped by the literacy office on a Tuesday or Thursday afternoon, it's more than likely you may have run into one of our two office volunteers.

Johanna Van't Hof has been donating her time since 2006, and Beverly Canton, since 2007. Both ladies brighten the room whenever they're here and work hard to keep the office humming.

Literally Speaking: What first drew you to the Newport Beach Public Library literacy program?

Beverly: I had just retired from teaching after about 35 or 40 years. My first love was always teaching reading, so when I read about the library needing help, I went in and knew I could continue helping others to learn to read. Even though I'm not on the direct line as a tutor, it's still along the lines of helping people to read, which is what I love.

Johanna: After taking care of my grandchildren several days a week, there comes a time you are not needed anymore, so I was faced with too much "free time". My first thought was, "how about volunteering at the Newport Beach Library?"

Literally Speaking: How has your work here affected your life outside?

Beverly: It's a great group of people with similar goals, so I feel better knowing I'm helping people from different parts of the world learn to read and think for themselves. This always makes me feel wonderful and gives me another purpose in life.

Johanna: I met so many nice people, especially Cherall and Francine, who will do anything to accommodate a volunteer.

Literally Speaking: What are your other interests and what do you do for fun?

Beverly: I like to work with other groups that help rehabilitate people in different areas of their life, such as Wounded Warriors 1st Battalion, a literacy group outside the library and a group that helps people in prisons to read and do better in life. I also love to go dancing with my husband with the different bands that we mentor.

Johanna: My life has been shaped around the tennis courts, so that's where my main interest is.

Tutors: Thank you for turning in your monthly report by the 3rd of each month!

Donations are always welcome

We are grateful for the community support that we receive from local companies, foundations, and organizations, and individuals whose donations have been helping the program continue to serve the literacy needs of our community.

If you have any contacts who might be interested in supporting literacy, please contact the office.

Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy

1000 Avocado Avenue
Newport Beach, CA 92660
(949) 717-3874

We are an IRS designated 501(c)(3) #93-1011706

A New Online Look for the Library

The Newport Beach Public Library will soon be launching their newly re-designed website. This includes a new look for our own site as well. While things may appear different, all of the same information can still be found plus several new additions.

You will also notice that the link to Literacy has changed. Simply click on EVENTS & SERVICES and you will find the link to LITERACY. This will take you to our new page. And, if you choose to make a donation to Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy through our website, the DONATE NOW link will take you to the Library Foundation, where you must complete the donation form. Be sure to type "earmark for Literacy" in the *Comments* box at the end of the form. That will ensure that your contribution reaches the Literacy program.

Thank you for your support!

Literally Speaking

Literally Speaking, the newsletter of Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy at the Newport Beach Public Library, is published bi-monthly and sponsored by corporate and private donations.

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Learner's Corner

A Trip to Sherman Gardens

By Grace Liu

There are thousands of ways to gain knowledge. To go on a field trip to learn new things is preferable to sitting at a desk. I enjoy of the luxury of learning by putting myself in a natural environment, and to explore brand new experiences.

I went on a field trip to the Sherman Garden in the city of Newport Beach. I went with my tutor from the library. When we arrived, it was too early to enter, so she suggested going to the nearby beach. We strolled along the beach, I saw people who were playing there, I imaged that they might have spent every day relaxing at the ocean and letting the surf lap at their feet. It seemed I could see swimmers, surfers, divers, volleyball players, and sunbathers who stay to watch the sunset and build a campfire.

We stopped at a point overlooking the beaches enjoying the views of the bay and the Pacific Ocean. We also walked through to alleys to observe the different form of architectures. They were very impressive, because they are combinations of art and wealth. We even made a joke of that area and called "another world". After we killed some time, we headed to the Sherman Garden. I felt the trip to the garden was an odyssey into the horticultural miracle. According to the brochure, it says this horticultural retreat is home to a cactus garden, tropical conservatory, rose garden, fern grotto, and herb garden. My tutor said, it's the best demonstration for us to learn how to care for our garden. I like the arrangement of layouts. I was captivated by the significant designs. I want to say that it was like a painting with all the different elements. I don't know who the craftsman was. I enjoyed their vivacious works very much.

It was an excellent field trip. I'll possibly visit the Sherman Garden again because it's a haven of peace and tranquility and a place to escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life. 🌿



Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy
 a program of the Newport Beach Public Library
 1000 Avocado Avenue
 Newport Beach, CA 92660

Upcoming Literacy Dates/Events

February 1	Wednesday, 10:00 am	Movie Talk
February 2, 9, 16, 23	Thursdays, 10:30 am	Life Skills Dialogue
February 3, 17	Fridays, 10:00 am	Advanced Life Skills Dialogue*
February 6	Mondays, 6:30 pm	Communicating with Confidence
February 6, 13, 27	Mondays, 10:30 am	Book Club
February 7, 14, 21, 28	Tuesdays, 10:15 am	Discussion Class
February 8, 15	Wednesdays, 5:30 pm	Tutor Training
February 8, 15, 22, 29	Wednesdays, 10:30 am	Pronunciation Workshop**
February 13, 27	Mondays, 6:00 pm	Job Skills Workshop**
February 13, 27	Mondays, 6:30 pm	Evening Life Skills Dialogue
February 20	Monday	Library Closed for President's Day
February 21	Tuesday, 6:30 pm	Evening Book Club
February 22	Wednesday, 10:00 am	Tutor Connection
February 25	Saturday, 8:00 am	SCLLN Literacy Conference†
March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Thursdays, 10:30 am	Life Skills Dialogue
March 2, 16	Fridays, 10:00 am	Advanced Life Skills Dialogue*
March 5, 19	Mondays, 6:30 pm	Communicating with Confidence
March 5, 12, 19, 26	Mondays, 10:30 am	Book Club
March 6, 13, 20, 27	Tuesdays, 10:15 am	Discussion Class
March 6, 20	Tuesdays, 6:30 pm	Evening Book Club
March 7	Wednesday, 10:00 am	Movie Talk
March 12, 26	Mondays, 6:30 pm	Evening Life Skills Dialogue
March 12, 19, 26	Mondays, 6:00 pm	Job Skills Workshop**
March 13	Tuesday, 7:00 pm	Advisory Board Meeting
March 14	Wednesday, 11:00 am	Pronunciation Workshop**
March 21	Wednesday, 10:00 am	Learner Network

* By invitation only. Must attend Monday or Thursday Life Skills Dialogue class to be eligible

** Pre-registration required

† Event located at the Buena Park Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center

Note: All programs are held at the Central Library unless otherwise posted and subject to change.
 For more details, contact the literacy office at (949) 717-3874 or email us at literacy@newportbeachca.gov